

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 LUANDA 00197 211947Z

46

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 AID-05 IO-10 NIC-01 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 OMB-01 SCCT-01 PC-01 /081 W

----- 001717

R 201105Z FEB 75

FM AMCONSUL LUANDA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3272
INFO AMEMBASSY LISBON
AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

CONFIDENTIAL LUANDA 0197

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINT AO
SUBJECT: FNLA PRESIDENT ROBERTO TALKS TOUGH TO MPLA

1. SUMMARY. IN A MAJOR SPEECH HOLDEN ROBERTO DIRECTLY ATTACKED THE ORGANIZATIONAL BASIS FOR MPLA IN LUANDA, THE PEOPLES' NEIGHBORHOOD COMMITTEES, AND WARNED OF THE POSSIBILITY OF CIVIL WAR IF THESE COMMITTEES ARE NOT IMMEDIATELY DISBANDED. END SUMMARY.

2. ON FEBRUARY 15 FROM KINSHASA HOLDEN ROBERTO MADE HIS FIRST SPEECH TO BE CARRIED IN ANGOLA. HIS TONE WAS STRIDENT AND MILITANT. THE INTENT OF THE SPEECH WAS CLEARLY TO CHALLENGE MPLA AND TO ASSERT FNLA'S POWER IN LUANDA.

3. THE THEME OF THE SPEECH, AS WELL AS OF SUBSEQUENT FNLA PUBLIC STATEMENTS, WAS TO ATTACK AND DISCREDIT "POPULAR POWER" (PODER POPULAR) AND THE NEIGHBORHOOD COMMITTEES THAT HAVE BEEN SET UP THROUGHOUT LUANDA'S BLACK GHETTOES BY MPLA IN AN EFFORT TO ORGANIZE THE MASSES. ROBERTO DESCRIBES THE COMMITTEES AS "EMBRYONIC SOVIETS" WHOSE PURPOSE IS TO ESTABLISH A "DICTATORSHIP OF THE PROLETARIAT" THAT WILL TAKE AWAY THE NEWLY WON INDEPENDENCE OF THE PEOPLE AND SUBSTITUTE RULE BY A DEMAGOGIC FEW.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 LUANDA 00197 211947Z

4. ROBERTO ALSO STRONGLY CONDEMNED THE "GRAVE AND DANGEROUS"

ATTACK OF MPLA UPON CHIPENDA HEADQUARTERS IN LUANDA ON FEBRUARY 13
AND WARNED THAT MPLA WAS "PLAYING WITH FIRE." HE EMPHASIZED
THAT MPLA'S UNILATERAL ACTION IS IN "FLAGRANT CONTRADICTION OF
THE TEXTS" OF THE ACCORDS OF MOMBASA AND ALVOR.

5. IN A REFERENCE TO BOTH "POPULAR POWER" AND THE ATTACK ON
CHIPENDA'S FORCES IN LUANDA, ROBERTO WARNS THAT THESE ARE "A
PRELUDE TO WHAT COULD HAPPEN TOMORROW, THAT IS, A GENERALIZED
CIVIL WAR." HE CHARACTERIZES THESE AS "CYNICAL, DELIBERATE
AND SUBVERSIVE ACTS" THAT COULD CAUSE THE BLOOD OF INNOCENT PEOPLE
TO BE SPILLED AGAIN.

6. WHILE THE SPEECH IS LONG ON VIOLENT RHETORIC, ROBERTO FAILED TO
SPECIFY WHAT STEPS FNL A WOULD TAKE IF THE COMMITTEES WERE NOT
DISBANDED. BY THE SAME TOKEN HE DID NOT TAKE UP CHIPENDA'S CAUSE
NOR ALLUDE TO ANY UNION WITH CHIPENDA. NEVERTHELESS, THE LINES
OF A CONFRONTATION BETWEEN MPLA AND FNL A HAVE BEEN MORE SHARPLY
DRAWN THAN EVER AND FURTHER VERBAL CONFRONTATION OVER THE
STATUS OF THE NEIGHBORHOOD COMMITTEES CAN BE EXPECTED. WE FEEL FNL A
IS LIKELY TO EVENTUALLY RESORT TO FORCE TO ELIMINATE THESE COMMITTEES
IF AN ACCEPTABLE COMPROMISE CANNOT BE ACHIEVED. THE FNL A MINISTER
OF THE INTERIOR DEMANDED THE IMMEDIATE DISBANDING OF THE COMMITTEES
(SEPTEL) AND HE PROBABLY WILL TAKE DIRECT ACTION.

7. SOURCES HERE TELL US THE SPEECH WAS WELL RECEIVED BY THE GENERAL
POPULACE.

KILLORAN

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLITICAL LEADERS, LIBERATION FRONTS, SPEECHES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 20 FEB 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: johnsorg
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975LUANDA00197
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750062-0997
From: LUANDA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750228/aaaaayun.tel
Line Count: 88
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: johnsorg
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 11 JUN 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <11 JUN 2003 by CunninFX>; APPROVED <08 DEC 2003 by johnsorg>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: FNLA PRESIDENT ROBERTO TALKS TOUGH TO MPLA
TAGS: PINT, PINS, AO, FNLA, MPLA, (ROBERTO, HOLDEN)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006